

REFERENCE TITLE: Kyoto protocol

State of Arizona  
House of Representatives  
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Introduced by  
Representative Schapira

A CONCURRENT MEMORIAL  
URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO FORMALLY ENDORSE THE KYOTO PROTOCOL.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 To the Congress of the United States of America:

2 Your memorialist respectfully represents:

3 Whereas, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the  
4 international community's most respected assemblage of scientists, has found  
5 that climate disruption is a reality and that human activities are largely  
6 responsible for increasing concentrations of global warming pollution; and

7 Whereas, recent, well-documented impacts of climate disruption include  
8 average global sea level increases of four to eight inches during the  
9 twentieth century, a forty per cent decline in Arctic sea-ice thickness and  
10 nine of the ten hottest years on record in the past decade; and

11 Whereas, climate disruption of the magnitude now predicted by the  
12 scientific community will cause extremely costly disruption of human and  
13 natural systems throughout the world, including increased risk of floods or  
14 droughts, more frequent and extreme heat waves and more frequent and greater  
15 concentrations of smog; and

16 Whereas, on February 16, 2005, the Kyoto Protocol, an international  
17 agreement to address climate disruption, went into effect in the 172  
18 countries that have ratified it to date; and

19 Whereas, the United States, with less than five per cent of the world's  
20 population, is responsible for producing approximately twenty-five per cent  
21 of the world's global warming pollutants; and

22 Whereas, the Kyoto Protocol emissions reduction target for the United  
23 States would have been seven per cent below 1990 levels by 2012; and

24 Whereas, many leading American companies that have adopted greenhouse  
25 gas reduction programs to demonstrate corporate social responsibility have  
26 also publicly expressed preference for the United States to adopt precise and  
27 mandatory emissions targets and timetables as a means by which to remain  
28 competitive in the international marketplace, to mitigate financial risk and  
29 to promote sound investment decisions; and

30 Whereas, state and local governments throughout the United States are  
31 adopting emissions reduction targets and programs, and this leadership is  
32 bipartisan, coming from Republican and Democratic governors and mayors alike;  
33 and

34 Whereas, many cities throughout the nation, both large and small, are  
35 reducing global warming pollutants through programs that provide economic and  
36 quality-of-life benefits such as reduced energy bills, green space  
37 preservation, air quality improvements and reduced traffic congestion; and

38 Whereas, the federal government and state governments can enact various  
39 policies and programs to reduce global warming pollutants, including efforts  
40 to reduce dependence on fossil fuels and accelerate the development of clean,  
41 economical energy resources and fuel-efficient technologies.

42 Wherefore your memorialist, the House of Representatives of the State of  
43 Arizona, the Senate concurring, prays:

44 1. That the United States Congress formally endorse the Kyoto  
45 Protocol.

1        2. That the United States Congress enact policies and programs to meet  
2 or beat the target of reducing global warming pollution levels to 7 per cent  
3 below 1990 levels by 2012

4        3. That the United States Congress pass bipartisan greenhouse  
5 gas-reduction legislation that includes clear timetables and emissions limits  
6 and a flexible, market-based system of tradable allowances among emitting  
7 industries.

8        4. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit copies  
9 of this Memorial to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of  
10 the United States House of Representatives and each Member of Congress from  
11 the State of Arizona.